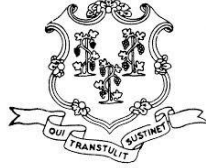


Commission for Connecticut's Future

Meeting Minutes



Tuesday, September 30, 2014

9:00 AM – 10:30 AM

University of Connecticut Avery Point
Room 103, Marine Sciences Building
1084 Shennecossett Road, Groton, CT 06340

Members Present: Commissioner Catherine Smith (Chair), Henry Lowendorf, Richard McCombs, Commissioner Sharon Palmer, Karl Prewo, John Rathgeber

Meeting Commenced at 9:02 AM.

- 1.) Welcome by Commissioner Smith
- 2.) Presentation by John Beauregard, Executive Director of the Eastern Connecticut Workforce Investment Board
 - “Examining the Southeastern CT Labor Market”
 - Southeastern CT experienced a much larger job decline than the state average and has not recovered as fast. The strategy to make improvements is to focus on STEM job cultivation and worker training.
- 3.) Presentation by Thomas Plante, Program Manager at Electric Boat
 - “Electric Boat: Business Update”
 - Electric Boat will be producing more submarines per year, should the Department of Defense’s current plan and budget stay the same. They remain committed to Southeastern Connecticut.
- 4.) Presentation by Bob Barker, Technical Director/Senior Vice President, Sonalysts
 - “Sonalysts Overview”
 - Sonalysts diversified from exclusively contracting with defense after the Cold War ended, now in a variety of commercial and defense-related spaces.

5.) Public Comment

- a. Climate change should be the number one priority for Commission
- b. Nascent technologies need more funding
- c. Federal defense spending too large a part of national budget

6.) Commission Member Comment

- a. Need to discuss tax incentives at greater length
- b. Need to discuss potential to repurpose and distribute patent ideas from large organizations who will not use them to smaller ones that could utilize and expand technology
- c. Commission needs to be asking municipalities what their challenges are and incorporate this input into our report

Meeting adjourned at 10:48 AM.